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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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Agenda item 8
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-eighth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011
(Item 3 (b))

Programme 3
Disarmament

1. At its 11th meeting, on 18 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 3)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Appreciation and support was expressed for the programme and the work of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

4. The view was expressed that the proposed biennial programme plan placed more emphasis on small arms and non-proliferation than on disarmament in general. Clarification was sought on how client surveys were used to assess the achievements of the Office. Clarification was also sought on the modalities in place for Member States to request assistance from the Office for Disarmament Affairs. The view was also expressed that the link between disarmament and development could not be supported.

5. With regard to subprogramme 1, the view was expressed that there should be emphasis on developing countries in the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme. Concern was expressed and

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clarification was sought regarding the difficulty in increasing female participants in the programme.

6. Concerning subprogramme 2, clarification was sought on the specific mandate regarding combating terrorism as referred to in the objective. Clarification was also requested on the number of requests for assistance and substantive input and advice provided by the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch.

7. Regarding subprogramme 3, the view was expressed that some of the indicators of achievement were too vague for measuring accomplishments. It was suggested that realistic and measurable benchmarks and targets be established. Clarification was sought as to the scope of activities and actions in place to further implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. Clarification was also sought on the authority to assess and evaluate "excessive accumulation" of small arms and weapons. The view was expressed that since there was no mandate to establish common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, the Secretariat could only support discussions by Member States on the matter.

8. Clarification was sought on timelines and measures developed in implementation of the strategies under subprogramme 4. Clarification was also sought on the applicable rules and procedures in connection with participation of civil society and non-governmental organizations in disarmament activities.

9. With regard to subprogramme 5, clarification was sought on the reason for the change in the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2010-2011 of indicator of achievement (b) (ii) that existed in the biennial programme for the period 2008-2009.

Conclusions and recommendations

10. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the modification below.**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 3.2

The last sentence should read:

"Conventional disarmament, especially with regard to major weapons systems, small arms, light weapons and landmines, have received growing increased attention from the international community in view of the havoc that such weapons are inflicting on people's daily lives, in particular in conflict-ridden regions".

Paragraph 3.3

In the fifth sentence, after "in-depth analysis", delete "as well as monitoring of developments" and insert "keeping track of developments in these areas".

In the sixth sentence, after "at preventing" the sentence should read: "the destabilizing and excessive accumulation of and illicit trafficking in and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in all their aspects".

Subprogramme 1
Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Revise expected accomplishment (a) to read:

"(a) Effective support to negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament and in conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral agreements on arms limitation and disarmament, including non-proliferation in all its aspects at the organizational, procedural and substantive levels".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) (i), after "Member States", insert "in particular developing countries".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.7

In subparagraph (a), after "Providing", replace "substantive and organizational support" with "organizational and substantive support".

At the end of subparagraph (a), delete "and non-proliferation".

In subparagraph (c), after "multilateral", replace the rest of the sentence with "disarmament, non-proliferation and arms-limitation agreements".

Subprogramme 2
Weapons of Mass Destruction

Objective of the Organization

Revise the Objective of the Organization to read:

"to promote and support the efforts for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects and to assist Member States, at their request, in supporting existing treaties related to weapons of mass destruction".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Merge expected accomplishments (b) and (c) to read:

"(b) Enhanced knowledge, understanding and multilateral cooperation within the existing mandates, as well as ability to respond to challenges relating to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, as well as biological and chemical

weapons, including terrorism involving weapons of mass destruction".

Delete expected accomplishment (c).

Indicators of achievement

Reletter indicator of achievement (c) as (b) (iii).

Subprogramme 3
Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Revise expected accomplishment (a) to read:

"(a) Increased international action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons".

Indicators of achievement

Revise indicator (a) to read:

"(a) Increased number of actions undertaken at the global, regional and national levels to implement the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons".

Revise indicator (b) (ii) to read:

"(ii) Number of States providing additional information on procurement from national production, military holdings and transfers of small arms and light weapons, pending the development of the Register by Member States".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.9

In subparagraph (c), after the word "deliberation", insert "(including on issues related to transfers),".

Delete subparagraph (e).

Reletter the subparagraphs that follow.

Subprogramme 4
Information and outreach

Strategy

Paragraph 3.10

In subparagraph (b), after the word "Matters", insert the word "including".

In subparagraph (d), after the word "Research", delete the rest of the subparagraph.

Subprogramme 5
Regional Disarmament

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), after the word "entities", delete the rest of the subparagraph.

Legislative mandates

Security Council resolutions

In the title of resolution 1673 (2006), delete the words "on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction".